

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2948**

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 20 2014

RE: H.B. No. 2072
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2014
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 2072, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds to establish a full-time, permanent Women's Veterans Coordinator position in the Office of Veterans' Services to address the specialized needs of female veterans who served on active duty for the full period they were activated and who were discharged with other than a dishonorable discharge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Department of Defense Civil Defense Division; State Office of Veterans Services; Advisory Board to the Office of Veterans' Services; Military Officers Association of America, Hawaii Chapter; Hawaii State Democratic Women's Caucus; Planned Parenthood of Hawaii; Hawaii Military Women's Task Force Committee; Hawaii State Democratic Gay Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender Caucus; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the population of female veterans is the fastest growing group of veterans and there are more than eleven thousand female veterans residing in Hawaii. The circumstances and challenges faced by female veterans are often different from those of their male counterparts. However,



veterans' benefits have traditionally been designed to address the needs of male veterans. Female veterans are in need of gender-appropriate programs, benefits, and services. This measure appropriates funds to establish a full-time, permanent Women's Veterans Coordinator position to advocate on behalf of female veterans who served on active duty for the full period they were activated.

Your Committee notes the two concerns expressed by the Hawaii Military Women's Task Force Committee and Hawaii State Democratic Gay Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender Caucus - first, male veterans are also victims of military sexual trauma, and second, female veterans are often forced out of service with a dishonorable discharge as a consequence of the sexual assault culture that exists in the military.

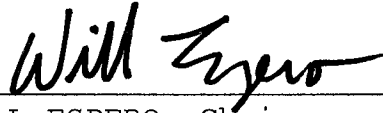
Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending section 1 to reflect the amended purpose of this measure;
- (2) Renaming the position as the Veterans Coordinator and requiring the Veterans Coordinator to serve all veterans, with a primary focus on female veterans, who served on active duty for the full period they were activated;
- (3) Eliminating the requirement that the Veterans Coordinator only serve veterans who were discharged with other than a dishonorable discharge; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2072, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2072, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs,

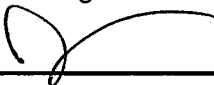
A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Will Espero", written over a horizontal line.

WILL ESPERO, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Seventh Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">HB 2072 HD1</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">PSM, WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">3/13/14</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
ESPERO, Will (C)				✓
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh				✓
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	3			2
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">Original File with Committee Report</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Pink Drafting Agency</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes